

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A resol resin composition ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of a ~~resol-type~~ resol phenol resin (A), an alkali earth metal oxide and/or an alkali earth metal hydroxide (B), and ammonium thiosulfate (~~C~~); (C)

~~wherein the resol resin composition does not contain  $AlCl_3$ .~~

Claim 2 (Original): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the alkali earth metal oxide and/or the alkali earth metal hydroxide (B) are an oxide and/or a hydroxide of magnesium, calcium or barium.

Claim 3 (canceled)

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 1, or 2, wherein the alkali earth metal oxide and/or the alkali earth metal hydroxide (B) are a powder and/or a granulate.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The composition according to claim 1, or 2, wherein 1 to 10000 parts by weight of the alkali earth metal oxide and/or the alkali earth metal hydroxide (B) and 0.1 to 15 parts by weight of ammonium thiosulfate are used based on 100 parts by weight of the ~~resol-type~~ resol phenol resin (A).

Claim 6 (Original): the composition according to claim 5, wherein the alkali earth metal oxide and/or the alkali earth metal hydroxide (B) are a powder and/or a granulate.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): A method for curing a resol resin, which comprises curing the resol resin composition of claim 1 at a temperature of from 10 to 110°C.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): A method for curing a resol resin, which comprises curing the resol resin composition of claim 2 at a temperature of from 10 to 110°C.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): A method for curing a resol resin, which comprises curing the resol resin composition of claim 3 at a temperature of from 10 to 110°C.